

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A trimmer (1) is disclosed from trimming excess margins (M) along one, two or three edges of a perfect bound book (B) is disclosed. The trimmer has a shearing blade (15) movable in a shearing plane (SP) between an open and a closed position. The book is gripped by a book holder (35) proximate the spine (S) of the book and the book holder is vertically positioned such the shear blade will shear the book in a predetermined position along this first edge of the book. The book holder is then moved transversely with respect to the blade and the book is rotated 180° and the book holder is vertically positioned so that a predetermined amount of the margin along this second edge is trimmed from the book upon closing of the shear blade. The book is then moved transversely to a third position and the book is rotated 90° and the book holder is vertically positioned so that a predetermined amount of the margin along this third edge is trimmed from the book upon closing of the shear blade. A method of trimming perfect bound books is also disclosed.